

What is claimed is:

1           1.       An apparatus interposed in a telephone line for defeating predictive dialing  
2 telemarketing systems, comprising:

3                   an off-hook detector connected to the telephone line;

4                   an audio energy generator producing a signal imitating the energy associated with  
5 an answering machine greeting;

6                   a switch interposed between said audio energy generator and the telephone; and

7                   a controller interposed between said off-hook detector and said switch for  
8 activating said switch to interconnect said audio energy generator to said phone line upon  
9 receipt of an incoming call.

1           2.       The apparatus for defeating predictive dialing telemarketing systems according  
2 to claim 1, wherein said audio energy generator continually produces said signal.

1           3.       The apparatus for defeating predictive dialing telemarketing systems according  
2 to claim 1, wherein said controller is interconnected with said audio energy generator,  
3 said controller activating said audio energy generator to produce said signal upon receipt  
4 of said incoming call.

1           4.       A method for defeating predictive dialing telemarketing systems, comprising:  
2                   sensing an incoming call on a telephone line;  
3                   generating a signal imitating the energy associated with an answering machine  
4 greeting; and  
5                   placing said signal upon said telephone line each time an incoming call is sensed.

1           5.       The method for defeating predictive dialing telemarketing systems according to  
2 claim 4, wherein said signal is continuously generated.

1           6       The method for defeating predictive dialing telemarketing systems according to  
2           claim 4, wherein said signal is generated upon said sensing of an incoming call.